

EPSTEIN & GERKEN 1901 Research Boulevard Suite 340 Rockville, Maryland 20850-3164 (301) 610-7634

Atty Docket No.: 2401.139.US

In re the PATENT application of

Kenneth Adams et al

Serial No.:

10/781,852

Filed: February 20, 2004

For:

Surgical Elongate Blade Assembly with Interchangeable Inner Member,

Kit and Method Relating Thereto

MAIL STOP: PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents for filing in the subject patent

application:

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement;

List of References Cited By Applicant(s) (FORM PTO 1449); and

One copy each of four (4) U.S. patents and two (2) PCT published applications.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert H. Epstein

Registration No. 24,354

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP: Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on September 19, 2005.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

BOX: PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty imposed by 37 C.F.R. §1.56 to disclose information which may be material to the above-identified patent application, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. Copies of the documents listed are enclosed herewith.

Since this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the aboveidentified application and/or prior to the mailing date of the first Official Action, no fee is required in connection with its filing.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant ∕0 F >

does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert H. Epstein

Registration No. 24,353

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Amanda Ginsburg

PTO/SB/08A (08-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE der the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known			
Application Number	10/781,852		
Filing Date	February 20, 2004		
First Named Inventor	Kenneth Adams		
Art Unit			
Examiner Name			
Attorney Docket Number	2401 139 US		

			U. S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (f known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	ļ —	^{US-} 4,705,038	11/10/1987	Sjostrom et al	
	<u> </u>	^{US-} 5,766,200	06/16/1998	Mazurek et al	
	·	US- 5,961,532	10/05/1999	Finley et al	
		^{US-} 6,007,556	12/28/1999	Kablik et al	
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		FORE	IGN PATENT DOCL	JMENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	-6
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	
		WO81/01363	05/28/1981	Frost		<u> </u>
		WO97/37600	10/16/1997	Cesarini et al		<u> </u>
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Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. The reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Shind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language

Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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